REMARKS

Responding to paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 20-41 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is respectfully traversed. The language in the claims objected to by the Examiner has been deleted.

Responding to paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the objection to claims 40-41 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) is respectfully traversed. Claims 40-41 have been canceled. The subject matter of claim 40 has been included in a new claim 42 that is believed to cure the objection to claim 40.

In summary, claims 20-39 and 42 are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Date: January 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald E. Larson Reg. No. 24,478

Attorney for Applicant

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd. 500 W. Madison, 34th Floor Chicago, IL 60661 312 775-8000